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Message Text

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61
ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EB-11 NEA-10 COME-00 AID-20 SS-15 NSC-10

PRS-01 PA-03 USIA-15 CPR-02 SY-10 TRSE-00 INT-08

XMB-07 FRB-02 OMB-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

OPIC-12 CIEP-02 /159 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W JWVINCENT:IS
8/8/73 EXT 23395
APPROVED BY AF ROBERT S. SMITH
AF/W: MR AGGREY
AF/W: MR LOUGHRAN (INFO)
EB/ORF/FSE: MR BROWN (INFO)
NEA/IRN: MR MIKLOS (INFO)
AFR: MR BROWN (INFO)
COMMERCE:BIC/OIM: MR WILKES (INFO)
---------- 038553
R 081958Z AUG 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

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E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP, ENRG, EMIN, ETRD, SG
SUBJECT: SECK VISIT

REF: DAKAR 3403, MORSE/SMITH/VINCENT MEMCON 7/30/73

1. MINISTER OF PLANNING AND COOPERATION OUSMANE SECK WAS GUEST AT AUGUST 7 LUNCHEON HOSTED BY ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY SMITH. SECK REPORTED THAT HIS TALKS WITH IBRD WERE GOING WELL AND PROBABLY WOULD CONCLUDE THURSDAY. HE MIGHT DELAY HIS DEPARTURE FROM US TO SPEND WEEKEND IN FLORIDA AS GUEST OF LANG ENGINEERING ALONG WITH COULBARYS AND MORSE.
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2. OIL REFINERY - SECK SAID GOS HAD THREE BASIC PROBLEMS TO OVERCOME: FINANCING FOR PROJECT, FIRM CONTRACTS FROM IRAN AND NIGERIA FOR CRUDE, AND EXEMPTION FROM NEW US IMPORT TAX ON REFINED PETROLEUM. HE INDICATED SENGHOR/ GOWON AGREEMENT LAST NOVEMBER ON NIGERIAN CRUDE WAS ONLY IN PRINCIPLE, AND WAS NOT FOLLOWED UP BY TECHNICAL TALKS AND WRITTEN CONTRACTS. HE SAID THE IRANIANS SENT A TECHNICAL TEAM TO DAKAR, BUT DECLINED TO SIGN CONTRACTS UNTIL FINANCING AND MARKETING PROBLEMS WERE SOLVED. HE ADDED THAT THE SHAH'S PROPOSED VISIT TO DAKAR APPEARED MORE LIKELY IN EARLY 1974, NOT LATE THIS YEAR. SMITH DISCOURAGED UNDUE OPTIMISM REGARDING A POSSIBLE EXEMPTION FOR SENEGAL FROM US IMPORT TAX. SECK ACKNOWLEDGED HE WAS FAR MORE OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE SUPER TANKER REPAIR FACILITY PROJECT THAN THE OIL REFINERY.

3. MISC. PROJECTS - SECK HAD LITTLE TO ADD TO WHAT WAS ALREADY KNOWN ABOUT OTHER PROJECTS. HE CLAIMED THAT TOURISM DEVELOPMENT ON THE PETITE COTE WAS PROCEEDING WELL, BUT NOTED NORTHERN EUROPEANS' PENCHANT FOR PACKAGED TOURS RESTRICTED SENEGAL'S PROFIT AND HOPED THAT FREE SPENDING AMERICAN TOURISTS WOULD COME IN LARGER NUMBERS. HE SAID HE WAS NOT IN NYC LONG ENOUGH TO CONTACT IHC ABOUT ITS DAKAR HOTEL PROJECT, BUT WAS REASONABLY CONFIDENT OF PROGRESS BASED ON FRANK ROSS' JUNE 12 LETTER TO HIM.

4. PHOSPHATES - SMITH ADVISED SECK THAT PAUL GLASER, DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS, US STEEL CORP., WOULD CONTACT HIM THIS WEEK ABOUT POSSIBLE EXPLOITATION BY US STEEL OF PHOSPHATE DEPOSITS IN SENEGAL. THE COMPANY IS ALSO INVESTIGATING THIS POSSIBILITY IN MOROCCO, TUNISIA, AND SPANISH SAHARA. MORSE POINTED OUT TO SECK THAT HE COULD IN TURN ENCOURAGE US STEEL TO INVESTIGATE DEVELOPMENT POSSIBILITIES FOR IRON ORE DEPOSITS IN EASTERN SENEGAL.

5. SECK AND AMB. COULBARY ALSO PAID COURTESY CALL ON DON BROWN, AFR. ROGERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE156510
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: IS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730850/aaaabkod.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: DAKAR 3403, MORSE/SMITH/VINCENT MEMC, ON 7/30/73
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10-Jan-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <28 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECK VISIT
TAGS: OVIP, ENRG, EMIN, ETRD, SG
To: DAKAR
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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